**Nile Basin Development Challenge**

**Template for the most significant change story 2012**

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| Project | NBDC 3 |
| Title | The magic of mapping |
| Author(s) | Catherine Pfeifer, An Notenbaert |
| Domain |  |
| Story | Through our previous training efforts in collaboration with local partners, basic GIS skills have already started spreading throughout the Nile Basin. This enables stakeholders to incorporate spatial data and simple analysis into the design, planning and assessment of rainwater management. A full assessment of suitability, including factors influencing adoption and assessing strategies at landscape level, however, requires quite advanced analysis skills. Typically these are done by specialists using expensive commercial GIS packages. N3 has therefore developed an open source GIS tool, the Nile-Goblet tool, which allows doing suitability mapping for the Blue Nile basin without any prior GIS knowledge.  The registrations for the training sessions offered in Addis and in Gondar show that there is broad interest in the tool. Beyond our N3 partners we have also invited participants from ministries, NGOs and other governmental institutes in order to spread the tool widely.  Also the technology group of the national innovation platform thinks that understanding where the technologies fit is crucial for implementing them on the ground. Therefore, the learning event of the platform will be about using the Nile Goblet tool.  In addition, we have been approached by ICARDA with the request to adjust the tool for higher resolution allowing to map detailed suitability maps for micro-watershed. The collaboration with ICARDA will allow us to access detailed input map at test the tool at different scale.  Finally, other projects (Africa Rising) have shown interests to adjust the tool for their own needs. |
| Lessons | **List the lessons here**  1.Easy GIS is something that people are waiting for  2.  3.  4.  5. |
| **Describe the issues that have facilitated the success aspects of this story?**  Collaboration with our partners has helped us to define the needs, and has also led to collaborations (ICARDA) we were not planning to have but are beneficial for everyone. |
| **What has exacerbated the aspects of this story that have not gone well?** |
| Process | **Why and how was this story selected?** |